JAN 0 9 2004 Attorney Docket No. HO-P02228US1 Beclaration for Patent Application First Named Inventor David L. Evans **English Language Declaration COMPLETE IF KNOWN:** Application No. Not Yet Assigned Submitted Submitted after initial Filing Date September 17, 2003 with initial filing (surcharge required Art Unit 3731 37 CFR 1.16(e)) filing Examiner R. A. Lewis As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: PROSTHETIC DEVICES EMPLOYING OXIDIZED ZIRCONIUM AND OTHER ABRASION RESISTANT SURFACES CONTACTING SURFACES OF CROSS-LINKED POLYETHYLENE the specification of which is attached hereto OR 09/17/2003 was filed on as United States Application No. or PCT International Application No. NOT YET ASSIGNED and was amended on (if applicable). I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the National or PCT International filing date of the continuation-in-part application. I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign applications(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's right certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed. Prior Foreign Application(s) **Priority** Certified Not Copy Claimed Attached YES NO (Number) (Country) (Filing Date) (Number) (Country) (Filing Date) (Number) (Country) (Filing Date)

Additional prior foreign applications are listed on a supplemental data sheet attached hereto.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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hygereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER 147061393US, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Correspondence Request, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 223, 1450, on the date shown below.

ited: January 9, 2004

For:

Signature: //

Docket No.: HO-P02228US1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

David L. Evans, et al.

Application No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Confirmation No.: 8875

Filed: September 18, 2003

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

PROSTHETIC DEVICES EMPLOYING

OXIDIZED ZIRCONIUM AND OTHER ABRASION RESISTANT SURFACES CONTACTING SURFACES OF CROSS-

LINKED POLYETHYLENE

Mail Stop Correspondence Request Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CORRESPONDENCE REQUEST

Regarding the above application, please be advised that this request was previously submitted with the filing of the Patent Application on September 18, 2003. This request is - being resubmitted as follows:

Please send all written correspondence to: Direct all telephone calls to:

> Joel R. Petrow, Esq. Smith & Nephew 1450 Brooks Road Memphis, TN 38116

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Applicants believe that no fees are associated with the filing of this request. If Applicants are in error, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to add any required fees associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. P02228US1/ 10105456, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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